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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,728	07/28/2003	Charles R. Martus	02-ASD-368 (EM)	6842
200	7590	05/20/2004	EXAMINER	
EATON CORPORATION EATON CENTER 1111 SUPERIOR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44114			GALL, LLOYD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3676	

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/629,728

Applicant(s)

MARTUS ET AL.

Examiner

Lloyd A. Gall

Art Unit

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 3, line 26, "configuration" should be properly spelled. On page 4, line 7, "They" should be replaced with --The--.

Appropriate correction is required.

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The written description should provide support for "follower" and "rotary member " (claim 8) used in the claims.

Claims 1-10 are objected to because of the following informalities: In line 1 of claim 1, "in combination" and "for use with" are not clear as to whether the assembly is claimed in combination with a vehicle decklid or not. In claim 1, line 7, it is not clear from what "therefrom" is referring to. The period in claim 1, line 8 is objected to, since a claim can have only one period. In claim 8, line 2, "notable" should apparently be replaced with --rotatable--. Appropriate correction is required.

Applicant should note that claims 1-8 and 10 are regarded as not positively claiming a vehicle decklid, and claim 8 is currently regarded as positively claiming the vehicle decklid having the claimed assembly mounted thereon.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3676

Claims 1-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gang (093).

Gang teaches an assembly including a latch assembly 5, a key operated lock 24 including an arm 25, 26 to actuate a follower portion 19, a release cable 17, means 20 including a housing for guiding the follower portion 19 and for tensioning the cable 17 upon key rotation, a follower surface portion 27 for contact with the arm 25, 26. With respect to claims 3-8 and 10, the piston which is surrounded by the spring 14 in fig. 1 is also regarded as a follower portion, defining follower portions (the piston and the portion 19) on opposite sides of the cable 17, wherein follower portion 19 extends outwardly of housing portions 7, 21, a spring 14 over the piston, which piston is slidably received in a tubular housing 7 including a cap 12. With respect to claim 5, follower portion 19 is received in a slot of housing portion 20. With respect to claim 7, follower portion 19 defines a projection moved to the right and out of the housing 20 when the key is rotated. With respect to claim 8, the key lock includes a Gang teaches a rotary member 25 having an arm 26.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gang in view of Ponn et al (436).

Art Unit: 3676

Ponn et al teaches a key lock and cable latch assembly used on a vehicle decklid (column 3, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the latch assembly of Gang with a vehicle decklid, in view of the teaching of Ponn et al, to lock the decklid against unauthorized access.

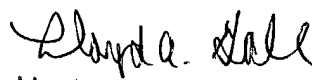
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lloyd A. Gall whose telephone number is 703-308-0828. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on 703-308-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LG LG
May 17, 2004


Lloyd A. Gall
Primary Examiner